

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph spanning p. 11, line 7 through p. 12, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

B¹

Low-level image features 228 can include any of a wide variety of conventional features, such as: color moment features, color histogram features, wavelet texture features, Fourier descriptor features, water-fill edge features, etc. In one implementation, low-level features 228 include three features: a color moments feature, a wavelet based texture feature, and a water-fill edge feature. The color moments feature is a 6-element vector obtained by extracting the mean and standard deviation from three color channels in the HSV (hue, saturation, value) color space. The wavelet based texture feature is a 10-element vector obtained by a wavelet filter bank decomposing the image into 10 de-correlated sub-bands, with each sub-band capturing the characteristics of a certain scale and orientation of the original image. The standard deviation of the wavelet coefficients for each sub-band is extracted, and these standard deviations used as the elements of the feature vector. The water-fill edge feature is an 18-element vector that is obtained by extracting 18 different elements from the edge maps: the maximum filling time and associated fork count, the maximum fork count and associated filing time, the filling time histogram for each of seven bins (ranges of values), and the fork count histogram for each of seven bins. ~~For additional~~ Additional information regarding the water-fill edge feature can be found in Xiang Sean Zhou, Yong Rui, and Thomas S. Huang, "Water-Filling: A Novel Way for Image Structural Feature Extraction", Proc. of IEEE International Conference on

6' Image Processing, Kobe, Japan, October 1999, which is hereby incorporated by reference.
